

**Economic and Social Council**

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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**Sixth session**

New York, 14-25 May 2007

Agenda items 4 (d), (e), (f) and (g)

**Implementation of recommendations on the six mandated areas
of the Forum and on the Millennium Development Goals****Recommendations on items 4 (d), (e), (f) and (g)****Submitted by the Rapporteur****4 (d)****Education**

1. The Permanent Forum recommends that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), as the primary United Nations agency dealing with education, science and culture, implement and strengthen strategies based on recommendations from the Permanent Forum's six sessions, placing emphasis on the quality of education and taking into account the visions and pedagogies of indigenous peoples. This recommendation should be reflected in the contents and activities of the global plan of action and in the medium-term financial strategy 2007-2013.

2. The Permanent Forum recognizes the role of boarding schools for indigenous children has attracted considerable international attention. In some countries, boarding schools have had a very negative, even tragic impact on the families, cultures and identities of indigenous peoples. At the same time, in some regions of the world, boarding schools are considered an important step for the successful social integration and education of their children into mainstream society. The situation is complex. The Permanent Forum therefore recommends that an expert member conduct an in-depth comprehensive and comparative case study on this subject with a focus on best practices. Further, where negative impacts have occurred, the Permanent Forum supports the call of indigenous peoples for formal apologies from the States concerned.

4 (e)**Culture**

3. The Permanent Forum welcomes UNESCO Executive Council resolution 176 EX/59 (relating to indigenous languages), and encourages Member States,



experts and UNESCO to conduct a preliminary study on the technical and judicial aspects of a possible international normative instrument for the protection of indigenous languages and languages under threat of extinction, including an analysis of the programmes UNESCO has carried out in this area, articulating linkages with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as adopted by the Human Rights Council in June 2006, to be submitted to the Executive Council of UNESCO at its 179th session.

4. In considering that 2008 is the International Year of Languages, the Permanent Forum recommends holding an expert group meeting on indigenous languages that will call upon States, the United Nations system and indigenous peoples and their organizations to consider the following elements:

(a) Working towards concrete actions and legislative development aimed at eliminating discrimination against the current use of indigenous languages;

(b) Developing programmes aimed at promoting the empowerment of indigenous languages through all mediums, including radio and television;

(c) Supporting and increasing the number of centres for the study of indigenous languages;

(d) Financing and supporting schemes for special projects that are formulated by indigenous peoples and are focused on revitalization and rescue of threatened languages;

(e) Designing, in consultation with indigenous peoples and the Permanent Forum, the organization of a world conference on linguistic diversity, indigenous languages, identity and education, as a contribution to the programme of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People.

4 (f)

Human rights

5. The Permanent Forum reiterates its recommendation at the fifth session regarding the adoption of the draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and reiterates its conviction that the Declaration will be an instrument of great value through which to advance the rights and aspirations of indigenous peoples and strongly recommends that the General Assembly adopt the Declaration before the end of its sixty-first session, without amendment.

6. The Permanent Forum expresses concern at allegations brought to its attention on continuing violations of human rights of indigenous peoples in various parts of the world and calls upon all States to fully implement their obligations under the international human rights and humanitarian instruments. The Forum reiterates its call on States to strengthen their institutions for the promotion and protection of the human rights of indigenous peoples and to enhance efforts of awareness-raising and capacity-building for government officials.

7. The Permanent Forum is pleased to note that indigenous peoples and their organizations increasingly avail themselves of the human rights procedures of the Human Rights Council and the international human rights instruments and the increasing visibility of indigenous peoples' issues within those mechanisms. In that regard, the Forum recommends that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) continue to disseminate information

and to conduct capacity-building activities on the United Nations human rights mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights.

8. The Permanent Forum expresses appreciation to Ms. Tauli-Corpuz for the paper she presented to the Forum, "Implementation of the human rights mandate of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues" (E/C.19/2007/6), and decides to use its analysis and suggestions as an important reference guide in its future work.

9. Taking note of desk reviews conducted by the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Millennium Development Goals, country reports, reports of United Nations resident coordinators and common country assessments and United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) papers, the Permanent Forum once again calls upon governmental and intergovernmental development agencies to implement the human rights-based approach to development that entails the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and respect for the principle of free, prior and informed consent.

10. Recalling its 77 recommendations on indigenous women during its past sessions, the Permanent Forum expresses concern over the slow pace of implementation and expresses its appreciation to Ms. Lux de Coti and to the International Indigenous Women's Forum for the paper on this matter (E/C.19/2007/CRP.4) and decides to carefully examine it at its next session.

11. The Permanent Forum recommends that a task force be created within the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues to specifically address migration issues of indigenous peoples, as suggested in the 2006 Geneva workshop on this matter (E/C.19/2007/CRP.5).

4 (g)

Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

12. Reiterating the goals of the Second International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, the Permanent Forum urges all States engaged in bilateral development collaboration with other States with indigenous populations to develop culturally sensitive policies, strategies, programmes and projects, in collaboration with indigenous peoples as part of their overall policies for development collaboration.